

**HANFORD REACH NATIONAL MONUMENT  
FEDERAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Summary: Session # 5  
Tuesday, March 19, 2002  
United Way of Benton and Franklin Counties  
Kennewick, WA**

The Hanford Reach National Monument Federal Planning Advisory Committee met Tuesday, March 19, 2002 from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the United Way of Benton and Franklin Counties, Kennewick, Washington.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

1. Review subcommittee assignments and tasks
2. Meet in subcommittee groups and assign chair and recorder, and other logistics
3. Begin work on issues and opportunities workbook statements

**Welcome and Introductions**

Greg Hughes, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Designated Federal Official (DFO) and Project Leader, Hanford Reach National Monument, opened the meeting and welcomed Committee members, the public, and other attendees at the meeting. Mr. Hughes announced that the Committee Chair, Jim Watts, was recovering from surgery, and that the Vice-Chair, Jeff Tayer, was filling the role of running the meeting.

Alice Shorett, facilitator, reviewed the day's agenda, noting that the purpose of the day's meeting was focused on subcommittee formation, assignments and initial work.

Jeff Tayer reviewed the public comment process and reminded those that would like to make public comment that there was a five-minute time limit. He also reviewed the Committee's purpose and charter.

**Meeting Summary from Session # 4**

The Committee discussed whether they had a quorum to approve or recommend changes to the draft meeting summary from the 4<sup>th</sup> Session. A review of the charter and groundrules indicated a need for 80% of the members to be in attendance in order for there to be a decision. There was a recommendation for further clarification of the wording in the charter with respect to a quorum. The Committee decided that they needed at least 11 people in attendance in order to make decisions. The Session # 4 meeting summary was approved, as written.

**ACTION:** The Committee approved and adopted the Session # 4 Meeting Summary. The Committee asked for further clarification and process suggestions from the facilitation team on the quorum rule in the charter.

Mr. Tayer recommended that the Committee hear public comment twice, since they were going to break into subcommittees for a two-hour period. He asked if there was anyone who would like to make public comment now. No one from the public accepted the offer. Mr. Tayer made clear that there would still be an opportunity for public comment at the end of the meeting.

Greg Hughes gave an update on the planning team hiring process. He stated that a position description has been posted for a lead planner. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has hired some new people to help with administrative work.

As part of preparing a Comprehensive Conservation Plan, the USFWS carries out resource reviews by bringing together expert teams. There will be a cultural resources review in late April, after which two other reviews will occur: biological, and public use. Once these reports are complete, they will be given to the subcommittees, and be used as the baseline for the plan. The public will have an opportunity to review the reports in late June. Mr. Hughes also mentioned that the USFWS is planning a County Commissioner tour to hear the concerns from all the Commissioners. This tour would take place around April 9-10, and will likely involve Benton, Franklin and Grant counties. The Draft Notice of Intent (NOI) has been forwarded to the Department of Interior, and once it has been approved by the Secretary of the Interior, public scoping meetings can start.

Q: What are we going to do about filling seats that we have lost, and what is the rule on attendance at meetings?

R: Mr. Hughes responded by saying that if a primary member does not show up to a meeting, then the alternate moves up to the seat for the meeting. Alternates are not required to attend meetings, but it creates a dilemma if the primary member also does not show for a meeting. He also said that the Committee would need to recharter at the end of the year, 2002, and this could be one mechanism for replacing members who have not been able to regularly attend meetings. Mr. Hughes recognized that this is his responsibility and he mentioned that he had scheduled a meeting with the USFWS Regional Director to discuss.

The Committee revisited the quorum issue to confirm that there is an understanding of the rule. Mr. Hughes said that the charter is the guiding document, so it is important to have 80% of the primary members in attendance when making decisions or offering advice. One member reminded the Committee that this discussion came up in an earlier meeting, and it was his

recollection that the “80%” language was there deliberately to prevent a hold-out stalling progress in the meetings.

### **Subcommittee Formation Review, Assignment, Tasks**

Alice Shorett presented the Committee with overheads on subcommittee assignments. She explained that it was her understanding the Chair, Jim Watts, had previously contacted them to give the Committee members their subcommittee assignments. The review of subcommittee assignments and tasks is included as Attachment A.

Ms. Shorett explained that each subcommittee was to meet at least once between now and the next meeting on May 2, 2002 to begin work on developing the issues within their topic. This issue and opportunity development exercise would become part of a “product” for each subcommittee, to be used in the public scoping process.

<p><b>Action:</b> Subcommittees will submit to Triangle Associates by April 24<sup>th</sup> a Draft Issues Statement of their topic.</p>
--

### **First Subcommittee Product – Issues and Opportunities Workbooks**

Paula Call went on to explain in more detail the sample Issues Workbooks handed out in the Committee folders. The subcommittees’ assignment is to define and flesh out the issues they brainstormed during their fourth meeting. For each issue, a statement should be written that provides a well-rounded picture of the issue, trying to give more than one way of looking at the issue. For example, one of the issues the Committee raised is river access. The issue statement should give a brief overview of the background, and explain what makes it an issue that needs resolution. For example, is existing access inadequate for certain types of boats and thus limits certain users on the river? If access were improved, would that entail new impacts to monument resources by increasing or changing use patterns?

The FWS will take the issue statements that the subcommittees submit and work them into a public scoping workbook. The workbook will provide the reader background information on the monument, define preliminary issues, and request input. Workbooks are all different and there is no exact format that is planned at this point. The final workbook will be customized for the planning situation here, and is meant to stimulate thought and input from the public. Please avoid including solutions to issues in the statements. The goal here is to simply bring out and describe the perceived issues so far, and see if the public brings forward new issues or new thoughts to incorporate in issue definitions.

The final Product, after being presented to the full Committee, and discussed/revised at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> full Committee meeting, will then be used to create the Issues and Opportunities Workbook for public scoping.

- Q: Is this the first set of recommendations? Some of us have not yet reached out to public constituencies while waiting on budget confirmation for the Committee. This is also a very busy time for many of us, and we are missing two primary members at this meeting.
- R: Greg Hughes replied that this is just a beginning towards a set of recommendations. This outcome will help shape the public scoping process. He also stated it may be helpful to bring the sample Issues Workbooks to those constituencies whom have already contacted Committee members.

Paula Call affirmed that it was correct that the subcommittees should use as a starting point the Draft Preliminary Issues Statements handed out at the February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. However, each of the issues under a topic will need to be developed and massaged a little more to come up with a comprehensive Issues and Opportunities Workbook. The subcommittees should come to the next meeting with a brief statement of the topic to include: (a) a statement of the issue, (b) background, and (c) different viewpoints.

Mr. Hughes added that the subcommittees were developed with balance in mind. It should be that each side of an issue will come out in development of a topic. He also reminded the Committee that in developing these issues statements, it will be important to keep the audience in mind. The public may not have an idea as to the background of an issue, or what may be the different viewpoints. Although there is no length the document should be, it will be important to be clear and concise. The use of bullets will be helpful in that effort.

Ms. Shorett asked the subcommittees to break into their groups and get started on their assigned tasks. Each subcommittee was to give a short report after reconvening as to the progress they made. The observers at the meeting met with USFWS staff during this period. The questions and responses from the public session are included as Attachment B.

### **Subcommittee Group Reports**

After work in subcommittees, the following reports were given:

#### Resource Protection

Chair: Rick Leaumont

Recorder: Roving (Michele Gerber this time)

Suggested list of six candidates to the USFWS

Next meeting: March 29, 7-9 am

#### Public Use & Access

Chair: Rich Steele

Recorder: TBD

Suggested list of six candidates to the USFWS

Next meeting: April 1, 3-5 pm

Valid Existing Rights

Chair: Bob Thompson

Recorder: Ron Skinnarland

Suggested list of three candidates to the USFWS

Next meeting: TBD

Ad Hoc Committee on Conflict Resolution

Chair: Leo Bowman

Recorder: TBD

Next meeting: TBD

**Public Comment**

Jim Curdy addressed the Committee. He stated he is from Mattawa, and that he used to manage the port there. He handed out to the Committee a letter and Department of Interior map of the Columbia Basin Irrigation Project. He reminded the Committee he spoke to them at the Mattawa meeting. When they started building the Grand Coulee dam, they had to borrow money. All of the expenses for the building of the dam were billed to a Columbia Basin account. Currently, only about half of those loans have been paid off.

Several bills were incurred to give farmers a pay back on their land of \$150/acre. Until the repayment contract was signed by the President, the work could not start. All of the canals come close to the Monument. In the planning stages, all of the land had to be taken into account. While the construction was going on, all of the farmers were paying to get the project done.

All of the lands that were pre-construction were left out of the Monument. Any extra water was supposed to be irrigation water in the Basin. The map shows the original owners of the land that was taken. When land is taken, it should be returned when a project is done. We want that land returned to the original owners.

Q: How many acres are we talking about?

R: Mr. Curdy responded by saying he was not sure how many acres in total.

**Wrap-up**

Ms. Shorett reminded the Committee of the next two meeting dates:

- Thursday, May 2, 2002, and
- Wednesday, May 29, 2002

Q: BPA is proposing lines across the Monument. The public comment period was to close March 25, 2002. We should add this as an agenda item for the next meeting.

R: Mr. Hughes responded by saying that the last time they presented to the Committee, they were not sure where they were going to site the lines. However, he was not sure it was

within the Committee Charter to comment on this.

### **Agenda Review for May 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting**

Mr. Tayer reviewed the agenda for the May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Each subcommittee would need to have a draft of their issues statement ready for full Committee review. The Committee reviewed a letter from the Benton County Commissioners requesting presentations by two groups. The letter led the Committee into a discussion about the need for a protocol around informational presentations and what the Committee has heard about versus where there are gaps. The Committee may want some information and education to fill gaps on the valid existing rights or other matters.

Mr. Tayer suggested that the Committee was going to have to come up with a process for reviewing what information and presentations should be given to the full Committee versus subcommittees.

Ms. Shorett proposed that the facilitators make a list of those who have requested to make informational presentations to the full Committee. The Committee would review the list, and process at the next meeting.

**Action:** Triangle will prepare a list of educational presentations given to the Committee to date, those who have requested in the past, and a suggested approach for future presentations to the full Committee and subcommittees.

The Committee would stay within their charter to provide advice on developing a long-term management plan for the Monument and address the needs related to the Monument. He also added that it was important for subcommittees to keep in mind the need for balance in the process. Once the suggested outside seats are submitted to the USFWS, the DFO and Chair of the Committee would look at those suggestions and make final determinations with balance in mind.

### **Closing Remarks**

Greg Hughes thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He reminded the Committee of the tasks they need to accomplish prior to the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Certified By:

---

Greg Hughes, DFO

---

Jim Watts, Chair

## MEETING ATTENDANCE

<b>Committee Seat</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate</b>
K-12 Education	Karen Weida	
Cities	Bob Thompson	<i>vacant</i>
Conservation/Environmental	Rick Leumont	Mike Lilga
Counties	Leo Bowman	Frank Brock
Economic Development		Harold Heacock
Outdoor Recreation	Rich Steele	Mike Wiemers
Public-at-Large		
Scientific/Academic	Michele Gerber	Eric Gerber
	David Geist	Dennis Dauble
State	Jeff Tayer	Ron Skinnarland
Tribal	Rex Buck	<i>vacant</i>
Utilities/Irrigation		Nancy Craig
Designated Federal Official	Greg Hughes	

### **Participants and Invited Speakers**

U.S. Department of Energy	Bob Rosselli, Deputy Manager for Business Services
---------------------------	--

### **Facilitators**

Triangle Associates, Inc.	Alice Shorett	Derek Van Marter
---------------------------	---------------	------------------

### **Meeting Support**

U.S. Department of Energy	Peggy Terlson
---------------------------	---------------

### **Observers**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Paula Call
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Maggie Martinez
U.S. Department of Energy	EM Bowers (for Dana Ward)
Benton County	Donna Raines
	Adam Fyall
Grant County	Jim Curdy
BPA	Bill Erickson
	Mary Hollen
Energy Northwest	John Arbuckle
Back Country Horsemen	Linda Smith
	Everyll Davison
Richland Rod & Gun	Eddie Monthos
	Eugene Van Liew

*Hanford Reach National Monument  
Federal Planning Advisory Committee Meeting Summary*

***Final***  
*March 19, 2002*

Congressman Hastings Office  
Tri-City Herald  
Public

Joyce Olson  
John Stang  
Alan Stellwagen  
Brett Rilewz  
Ken Wise  
? (illegible name)

## **DISTRIBUTED MATERIALS**

### **Committee's Packet of Materials**

Meeting Agenda (March 19, 2002)

Committee Charter

Draft Meeting Summary: Session #4 (February 6, 2002)

Letter from Benton County Board of Commissioners

Letter from Hanford Reach National Monument Federal Planning Advisory Committee to U.S.  
Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution

Preliminary Issues Exploration (Draft 2.04.02)

Subcommittee Tasks

Subcommittee Charge

Hanford Reach National Monument List of Non-Selected Applicants and Additional  
Subcommittee Recommendations from Outside Sources

Connecticut River Planning Project Issues Workbook

Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge Issues Workbook

Worksheet for Meeting Participants (ALE CCP)

Mail-in Response Form (ALE CCP)

Grand Staircase Escalante Visions Kit

Grand Staircase Escalante Worksheet

Federal Partnership Program Application to the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict  
Resolution

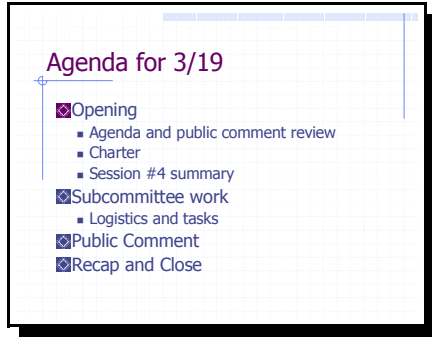
### **Public Comment**

Letter from Jim Curdy

Department of Interior Map of Columbia Basin Project

## ATTACHMENT A

Slide 1

A presentation slide titled "Agenda for 3/19" with a blue header bar. The slide content is on a light blue grid background. It lists five items, each preceded by a blue square icon containing a white checkmark. The first item, "Opening", has three sub-bullets: "Agenda and public comment review", "Charter", and "Session #4 summary". The other four items are "Subcommittee work" (with sub-bullet "Logistics and tasks"), "Public Comment", and "Recap and Close".

**Agenda for 3/19**

- ☑ Opening
  - Agenda and public comment review
  - Charter
  - Session #4 summary
- ☑ Subcommittee work
  - Logistics and tasks
- ☑ Public Comment
- ☑ Recap and Close

---

---

---

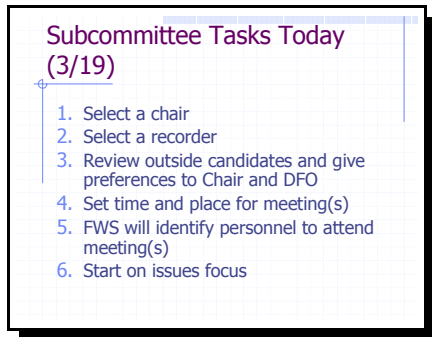
---

---

---

---

Slide 2

A presentation slide titled "Subcommittee Tasks Today (3/19)" with a blue header bar. The slide content is on a light blue grid background. It lists six numbered tasks in blue text.

**Subcommittee Tasks Today  
(3/19)**

1. Select a chair
2. Select a recorder
3. Review outside candidates and give preferences to Chair and DFO
4. Set time and place for meeting(s)
5. FWS will identify personnel to attend meeting(s)
6. Start on issues focus

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Slide 3

**Subcommittee Tasks BEFORE  
Next Session (5/2)**

- ☑ Meet at least once between 3/19 and 5/2 -- More if needed
- ☑ Reach out to constituents
- ☑ Produce Draft Product for Issues Workbook
- ☑ Provide Draft Product issues statement to Triangle Associates by **Wednesday, April 24th**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Slide 4

**Draft Product**

Purpose

- ☑ Helps Committee develop and prioritize issues as recommendations for public scoping sessions
- ☑ Educates and engages public in the scoping process

Structure

- ☑ See sample Issues Workbooks
  - Connecticut River
  - Nisqually NWR

---

---

---

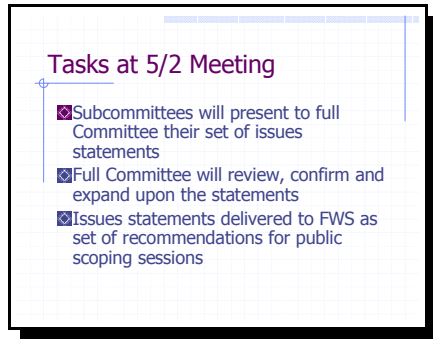
---

---

---

---

Slide 5



---

---

---

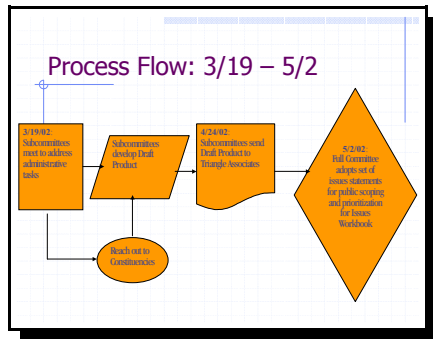
---

---

---

---

Slide 6



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Slide 7

Subcommittee Assignments			
<u>Resource Protection</u>	<u>Public Use &amp; Access</u>	<u>Valid Existing Rights</u>	<u>Conflict Resolution</u>
1. Michele Gerber	1. Kris Watkins	1. Jeff Tayer	1. Leo Bowman
2. David Geist	2. Rich Steele	2. Bob Thompson	2. Jim Watts
3. Rick Leumont	3. Karen Wieda	3. Doug Ancona	3. Dennis Dauble
4. Rex Buck	4. Gene Schreckhise	4. Mike Wiemers	4. Royace Alkin
5. Frank Brock	5. Harold Heacock	5. Ed Rykiel	5. Valoria Loveland
6. Nancy Craig	6. Mike Lilga	6. Ron Skinnarland	6. Eric Gerber

All subcommittees will need to select three outside members, keeping in mind balance of interest

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## **ATTACHMENT B**

### **Public Questions & Answer Session with USFWS**

- Q: What are all the lands that this Monument deals with?  
R: The Monument includes the Wahluke Unit, Saddle Mountain National Wildlife Refuge, Arid Land Ecology Reserve and river lands along the Hanford Reach.
- Q: What is currently open?  
R: The Wahluke is open, but Saddle Mountain is closed due to Hanford concerns.
- Q: What does “open” mean?  
R: Open to the public.
- Q: What are the hours they are open?  
R: The lands are open 2 hours before sunrise until 2 hours after sunset.
- Q: Only shotguns are permitted?  
R: Yes.
- Q: Is the river open to boats year round?  
R: Yes.
- Q: Is the White Bluff boat launch closed?  
R: The boat launch is closed annually from October to May to provide for wintering waterfowl resting. The State Department of Fish and Wildlife had enacted this closure prior to FWS management of the area, and we are maintaining the closure until it can be evaluated in the management plan.
- Q: What is going on with the roads in Wahluke?  
R: The Fish and Wildlife Service has received funding from the Federal Highways program to gravel the roads.
- Q: Are there any horse trails?  
R: You can currently ride anywhere out there right now.
- Q: There are many rumors about the future of the boat launch at Vernita Beach. What will happen there?  
R: The project has been going on for many years, and there still are no definite plans for the launch. The CCP will address long term access needs on the Reach.
- Q: Will trails be strictly for hikers and horses?  
R: The monument Proclamation specifically prohibits use of vehicles off roads.
- Q: Will you build new parking areas?  
R: The Service will maintain what currently exists until decisions are made in the CCP process.

Q: Will there be room for horse trailers at these sites?

R: The Service will look at all of the users.

Q: Have you solicited volunteers for sagebrush planting?

R: Yes. The Service welcomes the use of volunteers to supplement our small staff. We held a great volunteer project earlier this year where about 5,000 sagebrush were planted one Saturday morning. Our main limitation in working with volunteers is finding time to solicit and coordinate them. We could use a "volunteer, volunteer coordinator".

S: Preliminary list of volunteers:

1. Richland Rod and Gun Club
2. Pheasant Forever
3. All horse clubs
4. Native Plant Association
5. Rattlesnake Ridge Riders
6. Sageriders

Q: Why do they need more power lines in the Monument?

R: It is important to the transmission of energy due to the current gridlock in the system.

Q: Who is putting up the lines?

R: The Bonneville Power Administration.

Q: Is there an alternative to going across the Monument?

R: There is no alternative.

Q: What about the wind farm on Rattlesnake mountain?

R: That is on private property only.

Q: What is the status of your hiring the people you need?

R: With the Internet shutdown due to the Bureau of Indian Affairs court order, it makes the process more difficult.

Q: When is the next cleanup scheduled?

R: Nothing is planned at the moment.

Q: DOE is going to clean up Maggie Ranch?

R: That will be part of April Service Day.

Q: Have the fish in the Wahluke ponds been tested?

R: No, they have not been tested at this time.

Q: Is the area posted?

R: It has not yet been posted.

Q: Are the canals as polluted as the lake?

R: The Service does not yet know, because they have not been tested.

- Q: Are there plans to test the water?  
R: Yes, the Service is working with the Bureau of Reclamation on this issue.  
Q: Is it true that Midway does not exist now?  
R: Yes, we are using that area as a maintenance lot.
- Q: What do you think of this process?  
R: You will find people turning over stones that you never thought were there.  
S: That is what we want.  
R: There are a lot of people with diverse backgrounds that are working in this process, which is very good. There will be many new developments that will come up in 20 years that just were not thought of now.  
S: There needs to be continued education and engagement with the public for them to understand the process.
- Q: Is the old town site and bank in the Monument?  
R: No.
- Q: What about the B-Reactor?  
R: That is not in the Monument either.
- Q: Are these meetings moving to all the surrounding communities?  
R: Yes, that is the intention.
- Q: The general public wants to know why this is taking so long?  
R: There are many issues that need to be comprehensively looked at from the beginning.
- Q: One issue that is currently confusing the public is boundaries and what is open. There needs to be a map showing this information.  
R: There is currently a brochure in progress at the Monument headquarters office.
- Q: You should have a booth at the local Sportsman Show.  
R: That is a great idea.
- Q: We want brochures to pass around to the public. Can we get copies?  
R: When they are finished, they will be available to everyone. They are being printed in color.